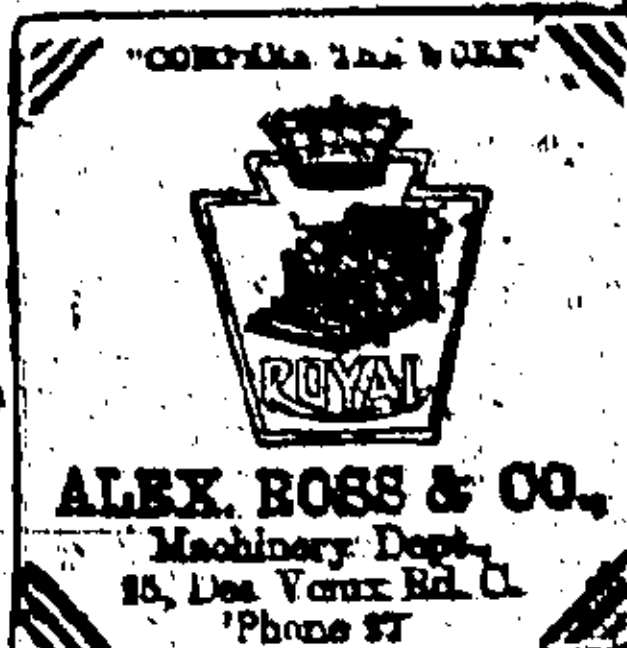


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The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1846



February 19, 1920, Temperature 58

Rainfall 0.09 inch.

Humidity 93.

February 19, 1920, Temperature 58

No. 17,880.

六拜禮

號一廿月二年十二百九千一英

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1920.

日二初月正申庚

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In view of the prevalence of above, we are now manufacturing
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"NASALENE"
Put up in two forms
Ointment & Spray.
These preparations we can thoroughly recommend as a
prophylactic in INFLUENZA being easy and simple in use.
Ointment in pots or tubes . . . 60 cents,
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TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Editor's Service to the China Mail.)
SEWING COTTON MONOPOLY.

AN UNJUSTIFIABLE INCREASE.

LONDON, February 18.
The Profiteering Act sub-committee inquiring into the alleged
sewing cotton combine, report after exhaustive inquiries that the manu-
facture of sewing cotton is a virtual monopoly of Coats, who have taken
advantage of their monopoly to restrict the trade, making it extremely
difficult for competing firms to obtain a footing. In view of the fact that
Coats last September estimated that the total manufacturing and selling
costs amounted to 385 pence per reel, the advance of the retail
selling price (to 74d.) was hardly justifiable. The retail price should not
exceed six pence a reel. Coats increased their net profit per reel by 152
per cent. between 1914 and 1919. The sub-committee however, are of
opinion that when Coats' present supplies of raw and manufactured cotton
are exhausted the price of sewing cotton must rise unless the price of
cotton falls.

THE SACK OF ODESSA.
A TERRIBLE CHAPTER.

LONDON, Feb. 18.
The Daily Telegraph Constantinople correspondent states the story of
the capture and sack of Odessa is one of the most terrible chapters in the
history of Bolshevism. The city was not taken by the advancing Red
Army but by the troops of the population who knew that the spirit of the
Volunteer Army in the city was utterly broken. Looting of the defenceless
city went on all day and night and thousands were massacred under the
eyes of Denikin's officers, who made no effort to crush the insurrection.
The only resistance offered was by a band of boy cadets, aged ten and
upwards, who defended the quays, despite heavy casualties, and were
finally rescued by British sailors.
About 12,000 refugees were taken from Odessa aboard British ships.

LONDON, Feb. 16.
The Daily Telegraph correspondent at Constantinople gives a report
that Odessa has been sacked by the Bolsheviks, thousands being murdered.

THE AMERICAN POLITICAL DEADLOCK.
PRESS SUPPORTS MR. LANSING.

New York, February 16.
Practically every newspaper in the country appears to support Mr.
Lansing against President Wilson whose action is variously described as
"ungrateful, unseemly and unexplainable," whilst the characteristics of the
President's illness are stated to be "petulance, peevishness, asperity and
excessive sensitiveness."
A resolution has been introduced into the House of Representatives
calling upon the Foreign Affairs Committee to investigate whether Mr.
Lansing has violated the Constitution by calling meetings without the
President's consent.
In some quarters it is believed the real trouble is due to President
Wilson's idea that an attempt is being made to invoke the Article in the
Constitution providing that the President's duties be assumed by the Vice
President in the event of the former being unable to carry them out, but
whatever the real reason, the American public sides warmly with Mr.
Lansing and believes his effort to carry on during the President's illness
to be insufficient cause for dismissal.

BRITISH OR CHINESE CREWS.
BLUE ANCHOR LINER HELD UP.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE, February 18.
Seamen have decided to hold up the Blue Anchor liner Albion Star until
the Chinese crew has been removed and replaced by British. A strike com-
mittee has been formed and no seamen are signing on any ships.

AERONAUTICS.

LONDON, February 16.
The Air Ministry announces the Cockerell's machine was forced to
land owing to shortage of petrol at Khor, twenty miles north of Mongalla.
The machine and passengers are safe.

AMERICAN RAILWAYMEN'S WAGES.
WILSON PROPOSES SETTLEMENT.

WASHINGTON, February 13.
President Wilson has proposed a settlement in connection with the
demands of the railwaymen for higher wages and the railwaymen have
agreed to consider the proposal.

THE SHANTUNG DEMANDS.
NO LIMITATION OF AMERICAN ACTION.

LONDON, February 14.
The Daily News' New York correspondent says Senator Lodge's revised
reservation on the Shantung demands gives full liberty of action for the
United States, whereas the previous version limited this to trouble between
China and Japan. This limitation has been entirely struck out and the
United States asserts an entirely free hand in the Far East.

IN BOLSHIEVIST HANDS.

COPENHAGEN, February 14.
Trotzky has informed Litvinoff that members of the British, French
and Italian missions captured in Siberia are being well treated.

SILVER.

LONDON, February 18.
Messrs. Montagu's report of February 12 says the market has shown
considerable steadiness during the week with an inclination upwards. The
fall in the price to-day is due to a strong recovery of American exchange
and a fall in the China exchange.

AMERICAN OLYMPIC TEAM.
SUPPORT FROM THE GOVERNMENT.

WASHINGTON, February 18.
After conferring with high Government officials the Olympic Games
Committee has obtained official Government sanction and support for the
American team which will be entered at Antwerp. President Wilson has
provisionally accepted the honorary Presidency of the Committee and Mr.
Baker and Mr. Daniels will be honorary Vice-Presidents.

THE AMERICAN AMBASSADORSHIP.

LONDON, February 15.
Lord Reading's secretary says there is no justification for his alleged
appointment to the American ambassadorship.

AN EDUCATED MAN.

In the "Life and Letters of Lady
Dorothy Neville," just published,
that fine old Postivist Mr. Frederic
Harrison, says, presumably in a hu-
morous explosion of resentment
against shallow and ineffective forms
and results of education, that he is
opposed to all education. "It makes
women conceited and unkind. It
makes men dull and pedantic."
Reduced from its comic petulance
to reasonable assertion and palpable
fact, this has but the harmless mean-
ing that some so-called education
makes some persons conceited,
selfish, dull, pedantic. Mr. Har-
rison's ascription of gender to the
bad qualities of sufferers from im-
perfect, undigested, or sham educa-
tion is, of course, merely arbitrary
or humorous. Will anybody with
eyes and ears seriously pretend that
educated or semi-educated women
are more likely to be conceited and
unkind than their equally educated
or partly-educated brethren? So dull
they cannot be. In the great mul-
titude of pedants how few the women-
folk!

Dullness and pedantry are old gifts
of mechanical scholars. Libraries
are full of books put together by
decadent generations of these.
Moreover, for hundreds of years the
controversial manners of many of
those scholars, of whom, perhaps, the
once famous Kasper Schopius—
Latin of the humbler birth-name
Schoppe—Schopius, the baster of
the Scottish Solomon, King James I.,
and of Joseph Scaliger, was the
choicest type. The manners of
educated men have improved, al-
though that sound old English
scholar, the late Mr. Frederick
Furnivall, was an unequalled spouter
of billingsgate when his fine old
Landorian temper was stirred; and
the historian Freeman, as everybody
knows, and the Dean of Wells, who
hated him, said, "revived the man-
ners of our savage ancestors." The
indecent virulence with which
he attacked Mr. Froude was of
himself sufficient to mark
how thoroughly inapplicable to
him, a man of deep research and
wide knowledge, was Colonel New-
come's favourite quotation about the
emollient effect of learning on the
manners.

While one does not have to be
educated in order to be dull, the
"educated" dullard adds to the
bounty of nature an acquired aridity,
stolidity, jejune, a superheated
that is amusing or exasperating,
according to your disposition and the
weather. Pedantry is a first cousin
of dullness and a brother of prig-
giness and conceit, and yet how har-
mless, how forgivable, how engaging,
even in some cases it looks. Some-
times an author appreciates his own
tendency to pedantry, and satirizes or
gratifies it by projecting it into a sort
of dissociated personality or char-
acter. Mr. Lowell, who had a pro-
pensity to pedantry, invented Parson
Wilbur as the emanation of J. R. L.,
deep in English and Yankee philology.
Scott's prefaces were all too short,
if not for the reader, for the author
to express his inexhaustible vein on
antiquarian and curious lore. He
had to give life to characters with a
streak or more of pedantry, like
Baron Bradwardine and Monkham.
They are delightful, and yet they are
bored to some extent. When the
pedantry of a man of genius is apt
to make us yawn, what shall we
think of the boundless steps of
"common, ordinary" pedantry?
It is true that a so-called "unedu-
cated" man or woman may be as
essentially pedantic and fond of dis-
playing the scantiest store of knowl-
edge or telling minutely, with cop-
ious rambling and ramifications, a
tadious tale as the most barren Ger-
man thesis-maker and Ph.D. discov-
ering, on "The Number and Signifi-
cance of the Rough Breathing, in the
"Syntax" of Apollonius Dyscolus,"
but it seems scarcely worth while to
"get" if one ever can get, "an educa-
tion" for the purpose or with the
result of being duller, more pedantic,
fuller of self-conceit than the un-
educated.

The truth is that "education" is
finally and maturely picked up in
the fields and streets, among men
and women and realities, much more
effectively and really than in
the formal courses of schools and
universities. The latter, however,
seems to be the kind of education
that Mr. Harrison gibed. However
and wherever hit or missed, "educa-
tion" is multiform and protean, hard
to grasp or define. One of the best
concrete illustrations of it was made
by Lord Morley. He said, in effect,
that "an educated man knows when
a thing has been proved and when it
hasn't."—China Press.

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GET rid of every cold as quickly as
possible. It is the forerunner of
all pulmonary trouble, and pneumonia
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a simple thing to do, but the effect is
surprising. For sale by all Chemists
and Druggists.

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INTIMATIONS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the Shareholders in this Corporation will be held at the CITY HALL, Hongkong, on SATURDAY, the 28th day of February, 1920, at Noon, for the purpose of giving the Report of the Court of Directors together with a statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1919.

The Register of Shares of the Corporation will be CLOSED from MONDAY, the 16th February, to SATURDAY, 28th February, 1920, (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Court of Directors,
N. J. STABE,
Chief Manager
Hongkong, February 10, 1920.

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC
COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TRANSFER BOOKS of the above named Company will be CLOSED from MONDAY, the 23rd day of February, 1920, to SATURDAY, the 28th day of February, 1920, both days inclusive. Dated this 16th day of February, 1920.

By Order of the Board,
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,
Agents.

RESPULSE BAY HOTEL.

TO-DAY

SATURDAY, 21st February,
Tea, Dinner and Dinner Dance.

EVERY SUNDAY.

ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS during
Tea and afternoon Tea.

NEW FRENCH LOAN 5 PER CENT
1920.

Under the Guarantee of the
French Republic.

THE LOCAL BRANCH of the
BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE
CHINE will receive subscriptions for
the New French Loan 5% 1920 from
the 10th instant to the 10th of March
next.

The Loan is free of income tax and
redemption in 50 Years at 150% by
half-yearly drawings, the interest
coupons being payable on 1st May and
1st November of each year.
Fully paid subscriptions at par.
Partly paid subscriptions at 101 per
cent amortizing:

Fr. 25.—when subscribing,
Fr. 25.—on the 1st of April,
Fr. 25.—on the 10th of July,
Fr. 25.—on the 1st of August,
1920.

M. ROUET DE JOURNEL,
Manager.
Hongkong, February 16, 1920.

NEW FRENCH LOAN 5%.

Price of issue Frs. 160.

Redeemable at Frs. 150 in 50
years by half yearly drawings.
Interest payable on the 1st of May &
1st of November.

Drawings to take place on the 10th
of March and the 10th of September
of each year.

1st drawing on the 10th of September
1920. 1st coupon of Frs. 3.50
to be paid on the 1st of November,
1920.

Subscriptions will be received up to
the 10th of March next by the:
BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE,
L. BERINDOAGUE,
Manager.

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SANTAL
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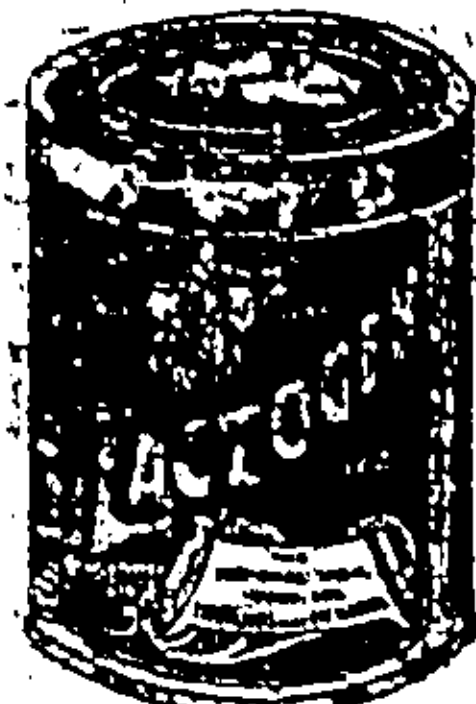
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AILMENTS.**

When there are diseases prevalent in
the season, it is the most dangerous to
infants and no Great Care must be
taken in feeding them with proper
food otherwise they would give their
Mothers a lot of trouble. To avoid
the trouble is to feed them with LAC-
TOGEN which resembles human milk.
It is easily digested and promotes
healthy appetite. It keeps the infants
thriving and free from all infantile
ailments.



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Hongkong, March 30, 1914.

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY.

THERAPION NO. 1

THERAPION NO. 2

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For the treatment of all diseases of the
urinary system, such as Gleet, Catarrh,
Nephritis, etc. Price in Hongkong
\$1.00 per bottle. Wholesale prices on
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"THREE CASTLES" CIGARETTES

**MAGNUM
SIZE**



A NEW SHIPMENT HAS JUST ARRIVED.

This Advertisement is issued by British-American Tobacco Co., (China) Ltd.

**THE ROMANCE OF
DISAPPEARANCE.**

Romance clings to the thought of
disappearance. Atlantis and the Land
of Lyonesse arouse in our minds a
sense of wonder not untouched with
emotion. Did Plato really get the
legend of Atlantis from an Egyptian
source? Do the sea levels of the
ocean lend colour to the theory of a
submerged continent? Have the
migratory birds preserved a tradition?
If all these questions could be answer-
ed once for all and decisively in the
negative, there is hardly a thoughtful
man who would not give a little sign
of disappointment. There is not too
much material for dreaming left now
that we have discovered the whole
world and disposed of most of its
myths. The public has always valued
day-dreams. What price a population
(bitten, we are told, by Socialism)
might be willing to give for visions of
individual wealth has lately become
a practical question. But geographic-
al dreams are things of the past. No
new country remains to be found.
No perfectly happy because perfectly
governed State lies beneath the great
water-floods. The great benevolent
autocrat with "a look as if he pined
men" is a creature of the imagina-
tion. He does not exist and has never
existed, however we may search
across the seas or the centuries.

Another of the romantic disappear-
ances of the world was the disappear-
ance of the "ten tribes." There
are, one hears, still a few practical
and reasonable men so fascinated by
the story of their supposed wander-
ings that they are able to credit the
baseless notion that the British nation
in its own proper person represents
this submerged offshoot of the Chosen
People. Where are they? Where
may they not be? Those two ques-
tions stand for these believers in place
of proof. They are enchanted and
cast into a condition of worldly pride
and unworried confidence by the as-
surance that they too have Abraham
for their father. Relate them to Ab-
raham's real and undoubted offspring,
the people whom no power could hide,
who have never been lost since
Pharaoh strove in vain to smother
them under the awful cloak of slavery,
and they will be anything but pleased.

How much do stories of submerged
villages and churches enhance the
sad romance of a flat shore? The
story of ringing bells in the lost
steeples is as old as the hills, and as
impossible as their reappearance in
the new belfry; but we cannot regard
it as a mere invention. We cannot but
listen to it late at night, when we should
be ourselves within traditional distance
of the sound.

The little things we all mistily go
up in value the moment we perceive

their loss. Superstition connects the
name of a saint with trivial losses.
He is supposed to be always ready to
help in the recovery of even the most
trifling possession. His help is in-
voked about things so small that
nothing but their disappearance could
invest them with sufficient romantic
interest to make them worthy the at-
tention of a saint. We have all heard
of offerings successfully made to St.
Anthony, and have sometimes heard
of them from persons who never in-
voked the assistance of any other saint.
The present writer knows of a Quaker
lady who admitted that belief in the
efficacy of a small offering made to
the benevolent saint was her one and
only superstition. Even her Protestan-
tism was not proof against the
Romance of Disappearance. The
woman who searched diligently with
a lighted candle all over the house for
one piece of silver had probably bought
—imaginary—goods with it up to five
times its value before she found it.
There are no books so interesting
now as a book we once lost. The
present writer remembers a senti-
mental American novel which disap-
peared from between his fingers—so
to speak—in his seventeenth year.
For more than a decade he seldom
turned over the books upon a shelf but
the thought of its possible re-capture
crossed his mind. The lost books
of literature stir the imagination of
every scholar. Think of the pleasant
dreams which whole families owe to
lost legacies. They grow these for-
tunes, "which cannot be squandered,
cannot vulgarize, or induce idleness,
or foster vice, till the thought of them
has had such an effect as that one
proud traditions and is more prized
than gold. A title which has disap-
peared is an education in romance for
every little child's son. Such thoughts
are spiritual jewels—as British and
as dear.

All "vanishing tricks" are popular
with simple people. Every child is
amused to see a peony "disappear."
It has, he knows, been dexterously
covered or snatched away by the
grown-up person who is amusing him,
just as well as the Anglo-Indian knows
that the native display of vanishing
boys climbing ropes is a matter of
optical illusion. No trick, however,
has had such an effect as that one
upon the mind of the spectator. We
should think there is no returned
Anglo-Indian living who has not been
asked if he has seen it. It is remark-
able that more play is not made of
modern seances with the Romance of
Disappearance. If a single member
of the assembly could for a single
moment be lost to view, we believe
more impression would be made upon
the audience than is made by any
number of "materializations."

Any inhabitant of any English vil-
lage can make himself the "talk of
the town" if he will go away from
it suddenly without leaving any ad-
dress. There is no person of any

consequence too dull, too harmless,
or too respectable to become the hero
of any imaginary crime or good deed
if only he will disappear. In a
moment he is a centre of romance.
If he came back incognito at the end
of the proverbial "nine days," which
means of course a much longer time
than a week and a half, he would
not recognize the highly coloured
portrait which would be shown him
of himself. What did he ever do, he
might wonder, to be thought so bad
or so good, so strange or so silly?
There is no reputation which could
stand an unaccountable departure.
Such a vague heading as "Disappear-
ance of a Lady" obviously attracts
many readers or we should not see
it so often in the public Press. Of
course if it can be made a little more
definite, and the disappeared person's
birth-place, daily work, or social con-
dition can be particularized, the
romantic instinct of the multitude is
even more certain to be awakened.
The notion that some one has not been
buried, though every evidence is there
to prove that he or she has died, is a
recurrent source of squalid romance.
We do not need a very long memory
to recall several instances of such sup-
posed disappearances.

The Romance of Disappearance
throws, we think, some light, though
perhaps it is but an oblique one, upon
the value set upon ugly and worthless
rarities; also it explains in some de-
gree the fascination exercised by the
effigies of animals who have disap-
peared from the face of the earth.
It is natural that they should be deep-
ly interesting to zoologists, but why
they should prove, as they always
seem to do, more interesting to the
general public than any other exhibit
at the South Kensington Museum we
have always wondered. Together
with mummies, they have a supreme
hold upon the fancy of the young Lon-
doner. Perhaps the inexplicable
cosmology of the antediluvians may
have something to say to their charm,
something which might enable them
to retain it even if they once more
came to life and had to be confined
in the Zoo.

Are there any lost arts? The
philosopher's stone, like Atlantis, is
a name to conjure with. It is not
likely that the alchemists had any
secret whatever which we have not
long found out. The Black Art has
disappeared; but it is surrounded by
a romance so profound and so seduc-
tive that not every one would dare
even now to make a study of its
former pretensions lest he should lose
his reason among its spells. "Chemis-
try" stands to alchemy as America
stands to Atlantis. Romance has very
little to do with the actual; the actual
is always passing and romance always
remains.—Ex.

WALLA WALLA "boats are here
and fast. Get them 'at Black
Pier."

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...her feet..."

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The China Mail.

"TRUTH, JUSTICE, PUBLIC SERVICE."

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEB. 21, 1920.

LOCAL SPECULATION.

There are big punters and little punters on the Hongkong share markets, as elsewhere. The big ones know what they are doing. The little ones don't. It is sometimes asserted that the big ones know what the little ones are doing, and shape their scheme of operations accordingly. He would be a very real sceptic who regarded this as unbelievable. The big ones cannot be caught short, not by the little people, anyway. If some sporting American millionaire were to happen along some day, when a "benefit" was being worked, and the same were explained to him, he could skin the wolf as easy as easy. "Here are your shares, where's your money?" would not worry him. He would do what the lambs never can—produce the cash—and the result would be a frightful scuffle in the wolves' den, because there are reasons why they must not part with too many of their shares. At present their game is safe and easy, by reason of the absence of such a well-bested operator. Were he to appear one day, he would skin them as easily as they now regularly shear the local sheep. Assume that they know that the bad-lambs are scampering for the most part in one direction. Considering that it is in their power to make them do so, by crying either "wolf" or "fresh clover"—according to which best suits their purpose—the assumption is not too far fetched. Very well. What more simple than to lie in wait behind that gap in the hedge, and take all they want as it tumbles upon them? It is easy for them to force prices up or down to suit their scheme. There are, as we have seen, various ways of doing it. Probably, most probably, all these ways are quite legal. There is an excellent story told on the Rialto of how a late financier, himself one of the wolves, did one of the carnivores that was trying, in a casual sort way, to eat him. But such incidents are rare. As a rule, the pack hunts together. Wolf doesn't eat wolf, when lambs are so plentiful. There was a private grudge at the base of that famous operation, and the victim thoroughly deserved his fate. Just now the pickings cannot be so rich, because the tender sheep are remitting their savings home, tempted by favourable exchange. That great man Barnum estimated, however, that there is a sucker born every minute, and the simple faith that is so much more than Norman blood is

is equal to the farewell of a Filipino with his clarinet and his horn—whereas "como un italiano con su violon y macaroni"—the coming of an Italian with his violin and macaroni, has to be contrasted, maybe. This makes us hesitate before guaranteeing the accuracy of our translation. We always thought macaroni was some sort of food, but here it seems to be a musical instrument. A German can play a solo with a plate of soup, of course, but that's different.

On Thursday we OFFICERS' GROUND, published some account of a private indignation meeting of British Army Officers at Kowloon. These gentlemen, returning from Tientsin Homewards, are held up here for nearly four weeks. They are billeted all over the place, some in quarters they consider not good enough, such as the Indian barracks, with accommodation such as is offered to Indians. Their pay and allowances, at present exchange, would be insufficient even if they got it; but it appears they don't get it; and cannot get what they are entitled to. The situation is not Gilbertian; it is damnable red-tape, wrong, and unjust. We advised them to "raise a stink" at Home, and they said they certainly meant to do that. The same thing has happened before here, the *China Mail* having had precisely similar complaints.

It is over now, so we cannot "spoil sport" by disagreeing with our contributor who recommended the China New Year Fair as a romantic opportunity, "to enjoy the smells of peach blossom, and oil lamps," and "the charm of Chinatown." There is another point of view. The streets were muddy underfoot, and the night air raw. The crowds were dense, promising plenty of disease germs. With epidemics about and pickpockets, and armed robbers, and influenza weather, to say nothing of the din, we (and many with us) decided that it was better to enjoy the usual Fair this year—by proxy. Perhaps "Bella Spree" will relate her impressions thereof in greater detail for us.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The U. R. V. C. monthly dance on Thursday night was the best attended of the season. As usual, representatives of the fair sex were, few but select—as it is leap year, that gives a nice choice to the ladies. The tents on the grounds were prettily decorated with electric lights, and the dance lasted until late in the early morning. The next hon will be given at the Club on the 6th of March.

Feb. 4 was a festival known in Japan as Setsubun, when the old custom was for men and women to dress in one another's clothes. There is less difference between the dresses of the sexes in Japan than in most countries, but this old custom is banned in a censorious age as improper and only observed when it is believed that a not too rigid policeman will turn his back. But any fun is only the faintest shadow of what it used to be.

The Japan Gazette reports that news has been received in Yokohama that Captain Dwyer Neville, of the British Royal Air Force, who last year proceeded to Siberia for duty with the British forces, is officially reported "missing—probably a prisoner." Captain Neville is a Yokohama "boy," and will be remembered as having distinguished himself in France during the war. While flying over enemy lines he was brought down, and after burning his machine succeeded in escaping into Belgium, where, disguised as a peasant, he evaded recognition by the German military, among whom he freely moved, and eventually escaped and reached England. After some time in England Captain Neville came to the East to visit his family (his brother, Mr. George Neville in Yokohama, and his parents and sisters in Harbin), and then joined the British forces in Siberia. Friends of the family will hope to hear soon that the young officer is safe.

Nearly all the giddy youth of the neighbourhood attended the charity bazaar, and one by one they drifted to a stall where a tiny, shapely, scented, grey kid glove reposed on a satin cushion. Attached to the cushion was a notice written in a delicate feminine hand, which ran: "The owner of this glove will, at 7.30 this evening, be pleased to kiss any person who purchases a sixpenny ticket beforehand." Tickets were purchased by the score, and at 7.30 a long row of sheepish, not to say dogfish, young bloods, was assembled outside the stall.

Then, punctual to the moment, old Tom Porson, the local pork-butcher, who weighs twenty stone, and is almost as beautiful as a side of bacon, stepped to the front of the stall. "Now, young gentlemen," he said, in his best "Buy, buy, buy," tones, "this 'ere glove belongs to me. I bought it this morning. Now I'm ready for you. Come on! Don't be bashful! One at a time!" But nobody came on.

THE WEEK'S CHAT.

Not much to chat about, after a week of flu and a taste of hospital. Hospitals are excellent institutions for sick people, but from a point of view of news, they do not shine, chiefly because, I suppose, one's state of health precludes one from taking a violent interest in anything but symptoms, charts, and medicine.

I suppose somewhere on earth the sun shone while I was in hospital, but it is even possible that now as I write it is shining somewhere, but it takes an effort of imagination I am not at present capable of, to believe that there is such a thing as sunshine, anywhere on this blessed earth. And yet I know it is true, memory works and vistas of lovely smiling country open out before me and I believe that if I am very good and have great faith some day a big ship will take me thousands of miles away from this island of clouds.

If any one ever reads anything I write, it may be remembered that once I wrote in favour of logs. I withdrew every word, and looking on those silly sentiments, conclude that I had inspired brain fever at the time. My doctor tells me that the after effects of flu on the nervous system and mental condition of sufferers is very interesting. I do not think he would think mine interesting if he had to live with me, instead of only seeing me for a few minutes. Anyhow I advise everyone to keep away from flu patients and to wear masks, veils or any old thing. Having had it four times in one year I am debating the question of the relative value of precautionary measures, or Christian Science in germ dodging, and think to be on the safe side I'll try both.

In spite of a determined effort to forget the world and by it be forgot, a few little bits of talk have penetrated my solitude and I laughed quite a lot when a tram conversation was reported to me. Some American globe-trotters had been inspecting the Peak, and were doing the usual rubber neck stunt in the tram, making loud comments on the beauties and curiosities passing under their observation, most of the beauties and curiosities were of course obscured by fog. They were nearing the bottom tram station when suddenly one declared, "Say! by the look of those clothes, that would appear to a laundry!" Peakticks sat up, and then a stifled snigger passed up and down and broke out into a hearty laugh, for it was washing day at the Helena May Institute, and one couldn't blame our American visitors for the very natural mistake caused by lines of Hush. It is not necessary to enter into details, and for all I know, they may only hang out sheets and table cloths. I am wondering if the globe-trotters called at the office and asked for a price list.

I missed the races, but from all accounts no one really enjoyed them but the lady who went home with 2,000 dollars and the express intention of going right away to San Francisco to buy lots of new clothes. She has such excellent taste in dress, that we are all pleased to think she will know how to make the best of it. I shall always feel that the flu has cheated me of 2,000 dollars. I can fancy myself buying a passage to the other side of the world chop chop had I been to the races—won my 2,000 dollars.

My last big show was the reception for returned soldiers at Government House, a nasty raw day it was, but there was nice music, and quite a number of people. One would have liked to cheer with all the men, but there were many unfamiliar faces and one simply cannot do anything natural and unconventional in this place. If you talk to any man without an introduction (I do it sometimes so I know) they wonder if you are respectable, and look around to see if their female relations have spotted you, which reminds me of an amusing experience I had once, in a much more lively place than this. I was reporting proceedings at a Mayoral function and one of the professionals was an elocutionist, an exponent of the new total recitation. He was a weird pale, long haired drooping type of man, and he recited "Bells," and every time he said Bells, he manipulated his larynx and his throat dome in such a fashion, as to give you, the sound of chimes, sometimes gay and light like wedding bells, sometimes the tolling sound of the funeral, and so on. He created a minor sensation and every one gushed over him, and he had the weary Willie look of a man saying "Chase me girls." I was a very conscientious seeker of copy, and I thought an illustrated interview was distinctly indicated. I approached him with a business-like air and a note book, and said the usual thing. One does not give trade secrets away, so I will not repeat what I said. I am sure I do not look like an adventurer, nor did I look love sick; one couldn't, but I was misunderstood. He put on an expression of modest fear, and said, "Would you mind arranging it with my wife?"

Those were very early days in journalistic struggles. I vanished into the crowd but some months later, his wife who was a professional fashion artist of great merit sought me, and such publicity as I could give her, she did not misunderstand me. It is a far cry from that elocutionist to the returned soldiers at the Governor's

reception in Hongkong, and I must return to the more local interest. I am rather sorry that Mrs. Mackay wrote as though she despised the men who accepted the invitation of the King's representative out here, to take a cup of tea with him, because she in common with a number of returned soldiers did not like the way the invitations were issued. She repeated a suggestion which I made in the Week's Chat at the time the original notice appeared, that it would have been an easy matter to obtain the names of all returned men from the various firms in town.

There is no getting away from the fact that the notice was thoroughly misunderstood and badly worded, for few soldiers realized that all returned soldiers were included and not only old Hongkongites. This made the issuing of invitations a difficult matter for every day new men were arriving and it was impossible to keep count. Anyhow a great number of people showed their appreciation by turning up, in spite of bad weather. Among those who according to Mrs. Mackay, were lacking in pride in sending their names in, there was a general feeling that it was the spirit of the thing that mattered in the long run, and not the manner of expressing the spirit.

Returned soldiers in Hongkong have not been spoiled by anything in the nature of welcome or appreciation by the town's folk. In fact the only public functions of welcome have been organized and given by Government House and the men who sent their names in had sufficient imagination to understand that His Excellency the Governor was paying them the only compliment they have had in Hongkong in wishing to meet them and bid them welcome and they would, I am sure, resent the imputation that they were lacking in pride or that they belonged to that order of beings who felt elated at being one of a crowd, buzzing around the elect. As for saying that the Governor is no better than the rest of us, nor is your tailor, but you do not treat him with disrespect because you think yourself a better or more capable fellow than he is; you would probably get the sack if you did. True democracy does not need to spout about relative social position of chiefs and lesser lights. The democratic lesser light lays himself out to become a bigger light and in due course tries to dazzle a new lot of lesser lights, and so on "ad infinitum." This democracy is very noticeable in Hongkong, where every one has the same chances and we all belong to the working classes. Even a Governor works for his living and never so hard as when he has to entertain the high lights and officials and pretend to like doing it. Every one out here works as little as possible, spends as little as possible and gets out as soon as possible and the worst off people in the place are the honest Government officials and civil servants, who if they play the game cannot save money or make money and have in due course to retire from the life of make believe of being big and important people, to eke out a miserable and obscure old age in a land of landed proprietors and people who have no room in their narrow little home circle for returned exiles. Your shop keeper and merchant, your lawyer and doctor, have a big pull. They can make money, and money opens the doors of the elect and the select. It even makes people forget to ask questions about your birth or your former business.

A lot of time has been wasted at the telephone during the last few weeks, and no body can make out whether the telephone company or atmosphere conditions are to blame. I will give you one woman's experience of one morning on the telephone. I watched her. Takes up receiver, "Hello, Exchange." Exchange: "Please!" Lady: "100 please." Telephone: "Tok Tok, rattle rattle. Buzz Buzz." Lady (turns handle): "Exchange! Are you there?" Exchange: "Please." Lady: "100." Telephone: "Tok Tok, rattle rattle. Buzz Buzz."

This noise continues for about 30 seconds, and the whole process is repeated, at least a sigh of relief. Is that the so and so company, Mrs. Jones speaking? What? Telephone: Buzz Buzz. Oh, gosh off, who is cutting across? What number please? No, I didn't cut you off. Don't go on ringing. Buzz Buzz. And all starts over again. Sometimes, the telephone buzzes like a gay little typhoon, other times it sounds as if there is a Chinese orchestra playing a serenade. More often, exchange, two or three other Europeans, and the way, way of Chinese voices, make a medley of sound that drive women to watch the luncheon car and men to drink. See the connection between luncheon cars and telephones! In case you do not, I will explain, that if you cannot get the Dairy Farm and Lane Crawford, and other provision merchants on the phone you have to go bottom side and do your shopping in person, and if you have to buy provisions for the family and silk stockings and new frocks for yourself, how can you get through before one o'clock. The moral is if the men want the luncheon car for themselves let them get busy cursing the telephone company.

THE GOSSIP.
February 19, 1920.

TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reader's Service to the China Mail.)

MAD MULLAH HEAVILY DEFEATED.

LONDON, February 20.

The British operations against the Mad Mullah have been so successful that the affair may be regarded as practically over. The Mullah's forces were heavily defeated and the Mullah himself escaped in the direction of Italian territory.

NAIROBI, February 19.

A combined Anglo-Italian action against the Mad Mullah is reported to have begun in Abyssinia with the object of sweeping the country of his supporters and concentrating a large force in the vicinity of the Gash stronghold in the northern Agaden country.

A British force, composed of Africans and Indians, with tanks and aviation detachments has landed at Berbera. The Italians are establishing a base in Italian Somaliland.

The Somalis state that the Mad Mullah is preaching a Holy War on behalf of the Sultan of Turkey.

HAVAS REVIEW.

PARIS, February 13.

A Havas message states: M. Raoul Peret Faas who was yesterday elected President of the French Chamber is a lawyer and has been member for Politics since 1902. He left the Radical party. He controlled the postal and telegraphic services for some time and became later Minister of Justice in the Poincaré Government.

M. Poincaré yesterday presented a cross to the city of Saint Quentin. The cruisers "Tokyo" and "Azuma" will shortly visit Marseilles and Toulon. Vice-Admiral Horiuchi, its Commander, is to visit Paris and the war front at the end of the month.

TURKS AND ARMENIANS.

A WARNING.

LONDON, February 17.

The British High Commissioner at Constantinople has been instructed to publish the fact that the Allies have decided not to deprive the Turks of Constantinople but, the Porte is warned that if the persecutions of the Armenians continue, the Turkish peace treaty will be considerably modified.

GENERAL TOWNSEND WITHDRAWS RESIGNATION.

LONDON, February 19.

In the House of Commons at question time Sir Archibald Williamson, for the War Office stated that General Townsend had withdrawn his resignation from the army, which was based on a misapprehension of the regulations. General Townsend had been informed that he was free to retire on retired pay, but had not yet replied.

CANADA'S STATUS IN THE LEAGUE.

NO IMPAIRMENT OF HER POSITION.

OTTAWA, February 15.

Mr. Rowell, acting Secretary of State for External Affairs, in the course of a strong pronouncement on the League of Nations, declared that Canada had won a place in the League and will not surrender it. Canada refuses to have any impairment of her status and voting rights under the Treaty in order to meet the United States' objections as regards the voting power of the Dominions. Canada had made this clear to the Imperial authorities requesting them to acquaint Washington of it. Mr. Rowell quoted the New York *Tribune's* question to the Senate, namely: you put Cuba, Panama, Hayti, Santo Domingo and your dependencies in the League but are unwilling to trust Canada. Mr. Rowell queried why it said that Canadians were awaiting an answer to this, not believing Americans would finally deny the Dominion the right cheerfully accorded to the above mentioned states.

THE BRITISH NAVY.

NINE DREADNAUGHTS TO BE SOLED.

LONDON, February 17.

The *Daily Chronicle* states that in view of the developments in naval gunnery the Admiralty are selling nine dreadnaughts: The Bellerophon, St. Vincent, Hercules, Collingwood, Indomitable, Superb, Neptune, Colossus and the Indefatigable, valued at £10,000,000 sterling.

The sales mostly clear out the twelve inch gun vessels. Some may be sold to the Dominions. Future ships will be armed with thirteen five and fifteen inch guns and swing to the development of naval gunnery guns may get even bigger.

MORE ARMED RAIDS IN IRELAND.

POLICE STATION BLOWN UP.

LONDON, February 16.

About 50 armed and masked men, at two on Sunday morning, attacked the Ballytrain police station, near Dundalk, which was occupied by six policemen. There was brisk firing and bombing on both sides, which continued for three hours when a terrific explosion blew up the building burying four policemen in the debris. The raiders carried away all the arms and ammunition. There have been no arrests. The injured policemen have been taken to hospital.

Another raid took place at a private house in Cork where four armed men held up the occupant and demanded arms to which the latter replied by shooting one of the assailants in the breast, himself being shot in both arms. The raiders got away carrying their wounded comrade.

WILSON'S MEMORANDUM.

THREAT OF WITHDRAWAL OF TREATY.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.

The Associated Press correspondent at Washington announces officially that President Wilson's memorandum informed the Allies that the United States might have to consider withdrawing the treaty of Versailles from the Senate if the Allies proceeded with their plans without the consent of the United States.

WALES BEATS FRANCE.

PARIS, Feb. 20.

In a Rugby match Wales beat France by 6 points to 5.

INDIANS IN EAST AFRICA.

LONDON, Feb. 20.

In the House of Commons, replying to Col. Campbell Lt. Col. Amery stated that at present it was arranged that Indians in East Africa should be represented on the Legislative Council by two members nominated by the Governor. The question of elective representation of Indians was being considered.

THE BULGARIAN TREATY.

ITALY RATIFIES.

ROME, February 15.

Italy has formally ratified the Bulgarian Treaty.

A SHIPPING CASUALTY.

PASSENGER STEAMER AIRET AND ABANDONED.

PARIS, February 17.

A communique states that all efforts to find the a.s. "Ville d'Alger," which wirelessed on the evening of February 1, that she was on fire 130 miles from Reunion, carrying 21 passengers, a crew of 50 and a cargo of rum and sugar, have been unsuccessful. The "Ville d'Alger," which proceeded to her assistance found the "Ville d'Alger" afloat and abandoned. Subsequent searches did not reveal any wreckage. A boatload of "Ville d'Alger" survivors have arrived at Madagascar. It is feared the remainder perished.

NOTICES.

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ATLAS MARU Monday, 23rd February.

ANDES MARU Middle of March.

GENOA & BOMBAY—Monthly service. Taking cargo on through Bills of Lading with transshipment at Bombay to Co's steamer.

BUENOS AIRES—Rio de Janeiro, Santos, Mauritius, Durban and Cape Town via Singapore.

TACOMA MARU Middle of April.

BOMBAY & COLOMBO—Regular fortnightly service via S'pore.

KOFUKU MARU Friday, 5th March.

SAIGON MARU Sunday, 7th March.

SAIGON, BANGKOK, & SINGAPORE—Regular Monthly service.

SHISEN MARU Thursday, 4th March.

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE—Monthly service taking cargo to New Zealand and Pacific Islands.

MADRAS MARU Saturday, 28th February.

VICTORIA & VANCOUVER—Tacoma via Manila, Keelung, Shanghai, Nagasaki, Moji, Kobe, Yokkaichi & Yokohama.

AFRICA MARU Wednesday, 3rd March.

ARABIA MARU Tuesday, 6th April.

KEELUNG via SWATOW & AMOY—These steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class passengers and will arrive at and depart from the O.S.K. wharf near the Harbor Office.

KAIYO MARU Sunday, 22nd February.

TAKAO via SWATOW and AMOY.

BOSCHU MARU Thursday, 26th February.

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TO STOP RACE SUICIDE
IN FRANCE.

A populous and growing Germany still faces a France of stationary population across the Rhine. Many plans have been suggested in France to remedy this perilous situation. A clever idea is proposed by Dr. Edward Toulouse, one of the best known French specialists in diseases of the brain and nerves, in a recently published book reviewed in the "Journal of Heredity" (Washington, October). Dr. Toulouse's idea is to conscript childless women to take the places of men in the industries in war time, making more men thus available for military service. Exemption from this conscription, and also the amount of service under it, would depend on the number of children. Having thus put a premium on offspring, Dr. Toulouse expects that the number of children would rapidly increase. The reviewer points out that men in Europe have often tried to bolster up a claim of superiority for their sex by pointing out that the perpetuation of the nation depended on its army and that they, by their compulsory military service, recognized and fulfilled the supreme obligation. "But," the women have answered, "it is we who bear these men that thus defend the fatherland." Therefore they have claimed at least the equality of their sex. Dr. Toulouse, in his system of eugenics, merely proposes to take them at their word. Says the reviewer:

"Every able-bodied woman, at the age of thirty, will be conscripted" to work, near her own home, for a certain number of hours daily, in a workshop, office or military hospital, in order to make available for actual military service all the soldiers who are commonly drawn off for non-combatant operations.

"The mother with three children will be exempt from this obligation; she who has two will do only six months of service; the mother of one child will serve for a year, and the childless woman two years."

"In this way women will be pushed toward maternity by a force with a different compulsion than that of taxation. Obligated to perform a service that is noble, beautiful, equitable, but in practice disagreeable, or to bear children, she will be naturally led to seek maternity. And in doing this she will not be putting herself into a position of inferiority, for from the social as from the military points of view, procreation is more useful than an auxiliary service in the army. Similarly the husbands will rather make their wives mothers than send them into military service for two years. This method of preventing depopulation will be efficacious; and it will be only justice to make it serve the military interests of the state, which are particularly endangered by race suicide."

"But quality as well as quantity is necessary in a population, as the author does not fail to recognize; and he devotes a good deal of thought to finding the optimum compromise between these two contradictory demands. He would have the marriage, or at least parenthood, of two persons with same inheritable defect prevented. In case only one of the parents is tainted, it would suffice that the other be warned of the fact, so that at least he or she would marry with open eyes. To aid in this work of restrictive eugenics, he would have a eugenics registry maintained by the state, where all families would be described."

"To enable this increase in maternity, financial means of caring for the children must be provided; but as children are in the last analysis the sole wealth of the state, Dr. Toulouse sees no reason why the state should hesitate to invest its funds in such good interest-bearing securities. He would have the expense of the early care and education of all children borne by the state if the parents required it."

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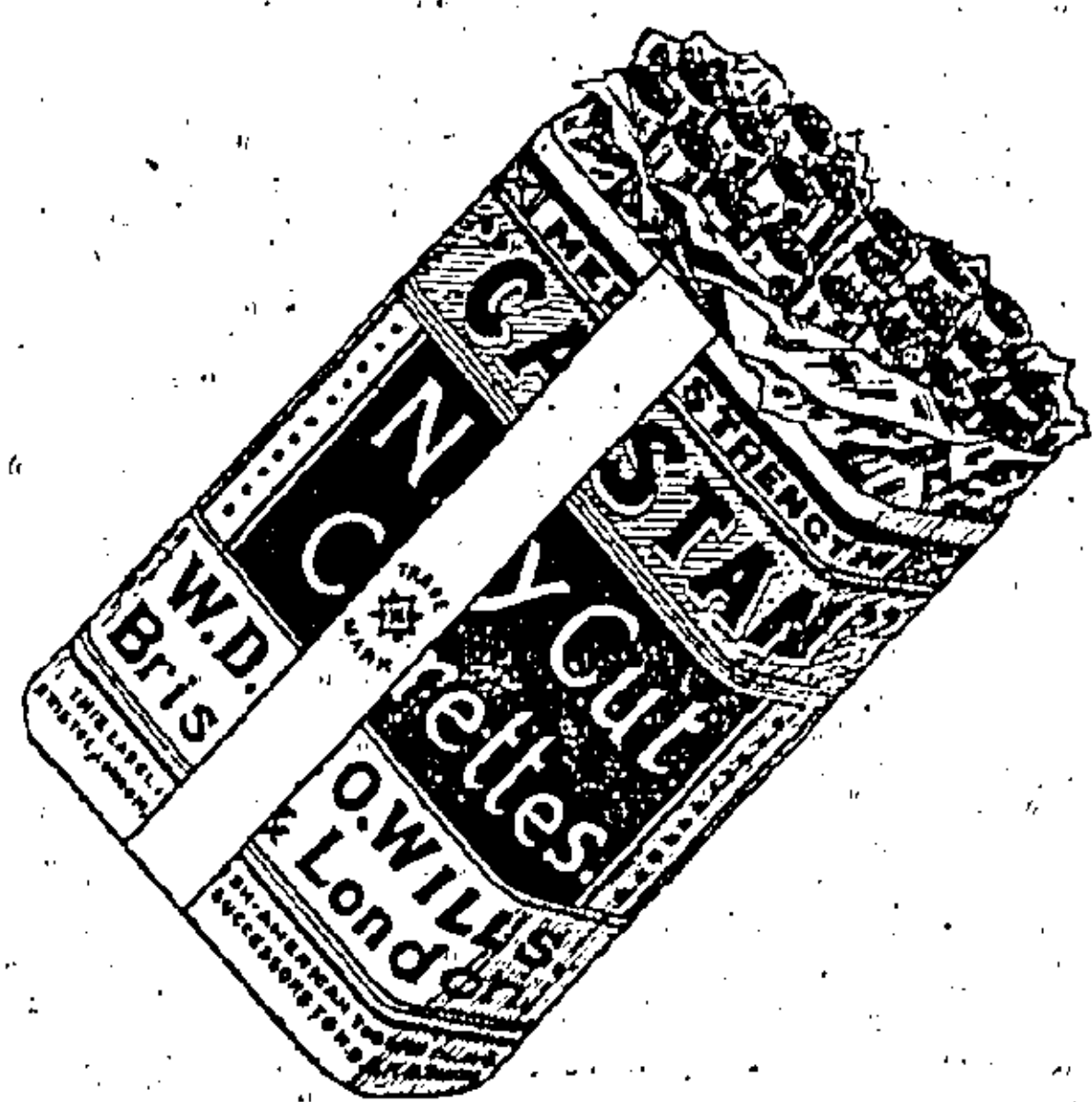
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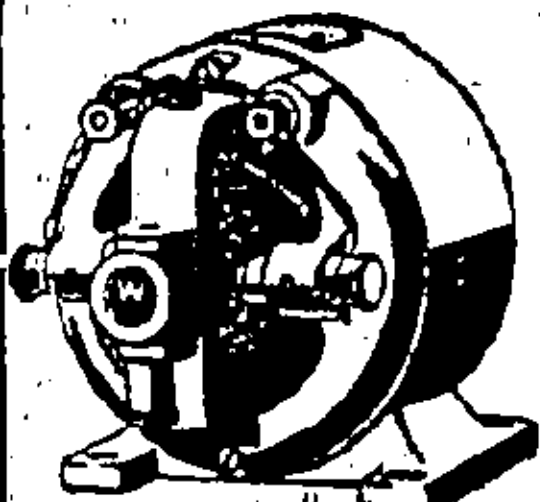
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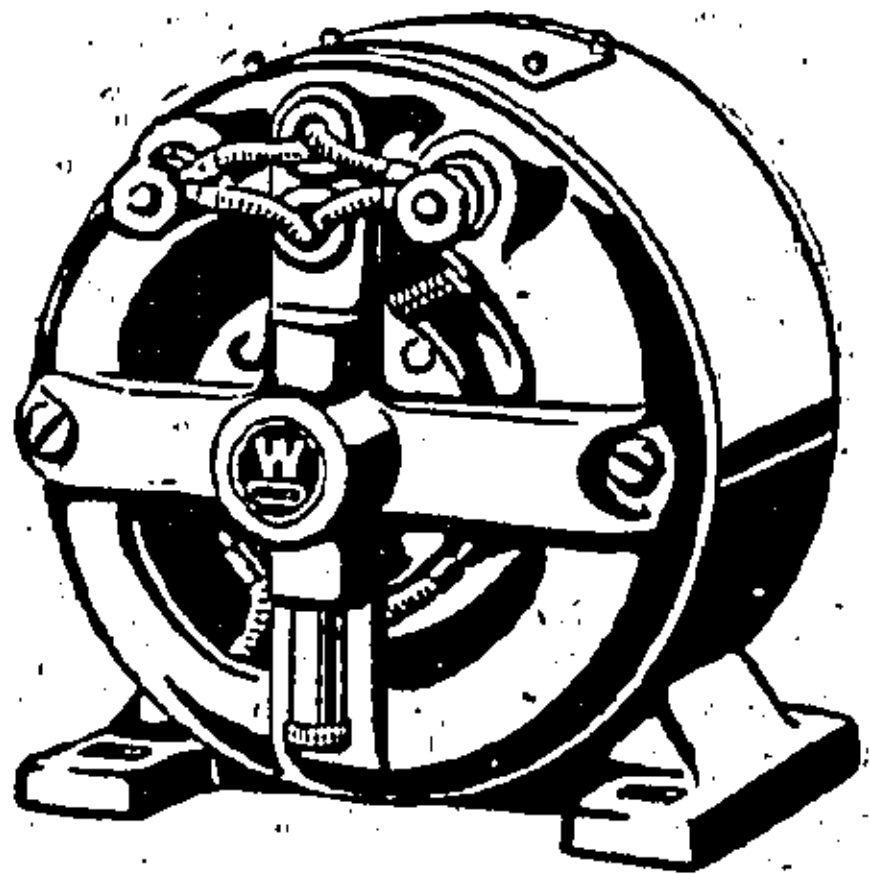
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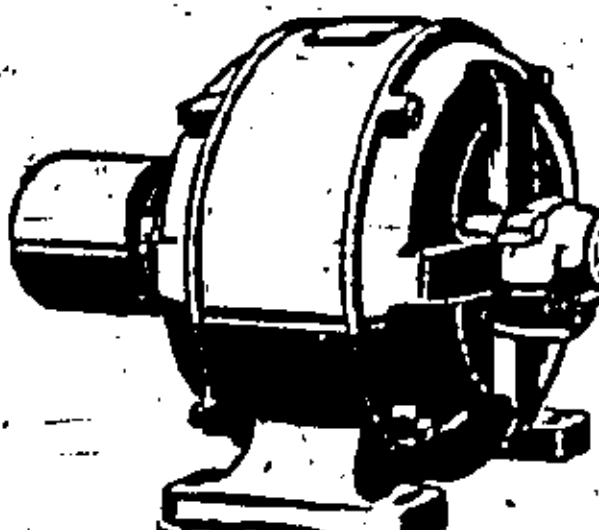
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HOW WE CATCH COLD.

Since it has been established that a "common cold" is an infection, physicians have talked with some caution about a man's "catching" cold all by himself. Must not a cold result from contact with an infected person? That it may so result we all know. But how about those who catch cold by getting their feet wet or by sitting in a draft? There have been doctors so bold as to deny this origin, despite the millions of victims who are ready to testify to its existence. It seems now to be generally acknowledged that the malady in this case is due to bacteria already present in the body in a quiescent and relatively harmless state, which are either stimulated in some way or find decreased resistance, owing to something that happens when the surface of the body is chilled. This something has been thought by several authorities to be congestion, but experiments made recently at Washington University Medical School, St. Louis, by S. Mudd and S. B. Grant, seem to establish the fact that it is a precisely contrary condition, namely, constriction of blood-vessels causing a lack of blood in the mucous surfaces of the throat, the nose, and elsewhere. Says an editorial writer in *The Journal of the American Medical Association* (Chicago), in an article headed "Reactions to Chilling of the Body Surface":

"There can be little doubt that chilling of body surfaces may become a contributory factor, if nothing more, in the etiology of pharyngitis, tonsillitis, rhinitis, etc. Although popular writers on health topics tend to decry the fear of drafts as something unworthy of the present-day adult, it will not be easy to convince an unprejudiced observer that the dread of danger from exceptional exposures belongs to the category of hygienic superstitions. Pathogenic bacteria undoubtedly exist on the mucous membranes of the nasopharynx frequently if not continually; yet it is only at certain times that they unfold an undesirable activity."

"What makes the mucosa more susceptible to microbial activities after undue exposure of the exterior of the body? One of the familiar explanations of the reaction to cutaneous chilling is that the blood, being driven away from the surface of the body, is directed inwardly so that congestion of the internal parts and organs results [which is] supposed to alter the resistance of the latter to bacterial invaders. Strangely enough, this hypothesis fails to conform with certain facts that have lately been discovered by Mudd and Grant at the Washington University School of

Medicine. They have shown ingeniously by direct measurement of the temperature of the skin and . . . mucous membranes that it actually falls with chilling of distant areas of the body surface and rises again when the person is warmed externally. There is no congestion such as one has been led to expect from much of the current literature on the subject. "These unexpected findings call for new assumptions to explain the genesis of the 'sore throat.' We can only reiterate the latest hypothesis presented by Mudd and Grant for criticism. It seems not improbable, they say, that ischemia (interruption of the circulation) incident on cutaneous chilling . . . so disturbs the equilibrium between the host and the micro-organisms as to excite infection. The fact that ischemia occurs where congestion has been assumed heretofore to arise is an important contribution; the discussion which has followed this fact must still be regarded as nothing more than a working hypothesis."

But how does the lack of blood in the membranes "disturb the equilibrium" as above suggested? The experimenters apparently are not certain, but they mention several possibilities, among which are that it is done by decreasing the respiration of the cells, by retarding the removal of waste products, or by decreasing the local supply of the "antibodies" that determine immunity. —L.H. Dyer.

A NEW PUMP.

A feature of Norwich Fat Cattle Show which attracted big crowds was an ingenious French idea for lifting water from wells. There is a long chain but no bucket. The chain lifts the water itself. Messrs. Boulton and Paul have acquired the rights of this invention, which consists of an endless chain covered with a spiral of wire suspended in the well, and weighted with a heavy free pulley to keep it taut. All one has to do to get water is to turn a handle, which sets the chain revolving over a deeply grooved pulley at the top. The water is entrapped in the interstices of the spiral by capillary attraction, and thus is lifted from the well until, as the chain passes over the grooved pulley at the top, it is thrown off by centrifugal force. With easy turning of the handle the water comes up copiously, can be lifted 300 feet if necessary, and with motor power will deliver up to 7,000 gallons an hour.

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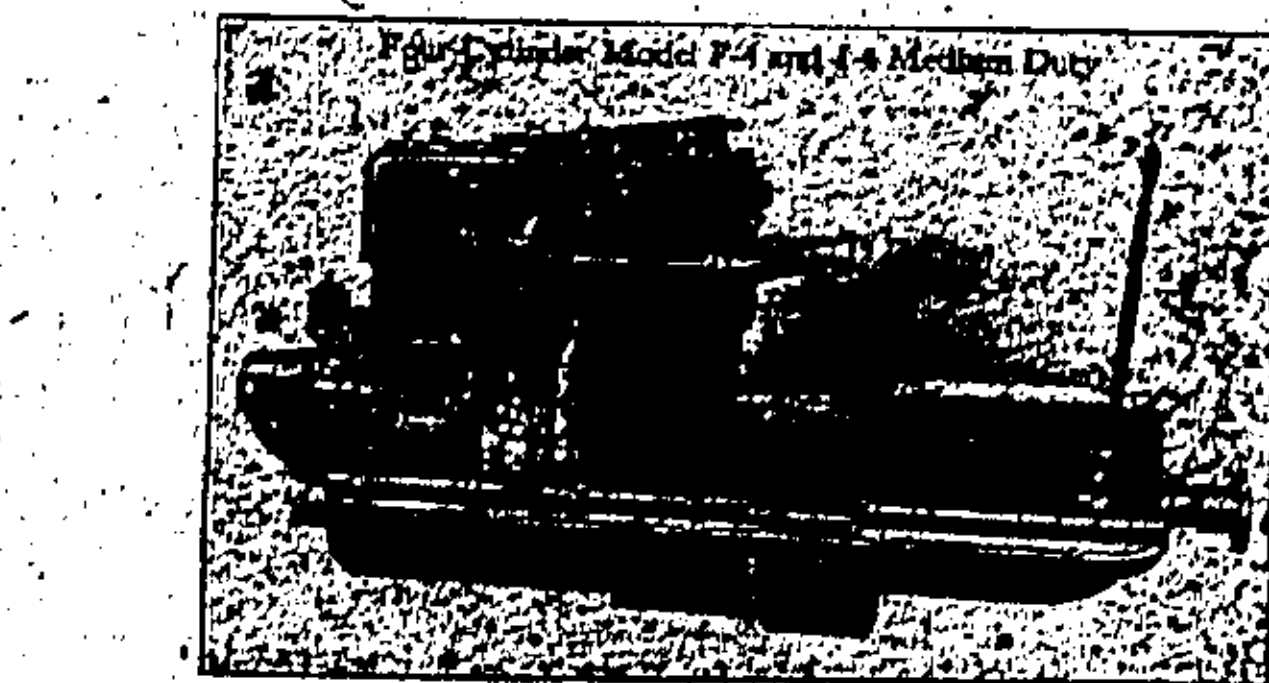
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